

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST.

No. 1

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHERS.

-against-

NAKAI, SADAO AND OTHERS.

I, OLIVER EDWIN GEORGE ROBERTS of BUNNORN, BRISBANE in the STATE of QUEENSLAND, make oath and say as follows:-

I was QK. 9252 GNR. OLIVER EDWIN ROBERTS of the 2/10 FIELD REGIMENT, 8 AUSTRALIAN DIVISION, when I was taken prisoner by the Japanese at Singapore in February, 1942.

2. In May, 1943 I went to JAPAN by ship, we landed at KOBE and marched to ORIO. There were about 300 or 400 British and 50 Australians in this party. Most of the men were suffering from dysentery and beri beri when they reached Orio.

3. The food which we were given there was mainly rice with occasional pieces of dog meat, octopus, whale blubber and shark. Occasionally we were given vegetables, but the amount was not sufficient for the men and diseases due to malnutrition increased.

4. Before we started work at Orio we were taken out into a village and made to double around the square in front of the Japanese people, several men collapsed and were beaten by the Japanese guards in front of the people.

5. We were put to work in a coal mine, where the conditions were very bad. There was a lot of water and the roof was dangerous, on one occasion it fell in and caused two or three deaths including one Australian named TROTTER.

6. On another occasion an English Soldier named HORNE was killed when he was crushed between two coal trucks. The hours of work were ten hours per day and on one occasion we went for twenty-one days without rest.

7. On a number of occasions men who were sick were forced to work in the mine.

8. There were a number of beatings given to the prisoners by the Japanese Guards. I, myself was hit on the head with a rifle butt, and there is still a dint in my skull from it.

9. We were put in mud huts which were verminous.

10. In the wintertime the cold was intense, and we were given very thin blankets which did not keep us warm, in consequence there were a number of cases of pneumonia and five or six Australians died from pneumonia.

11. American Red Cross Parcels were sent to the camp, but most of the contents were stolen by Japanese Guards.

12. Throughout the whole of the time that we were in this camp medical supplies were very short and because of this a number of deaths took place.

13. One Japanese at this camp with a name like "DEGUS" used to pick the lice off the men's clothes and make the men eat them.

14. Gnr. ERVIN escaped from the camp one night and was re-captured about forty miles away. His body was brought back to the camp in a box. I saw the body lying in the box, but I could not see his head. I was informed by some civilian Japanese that Erwin was first of all shot and then his head was severed.

O. E. G. Roberts (signed)

SWORN BEFORE ME AT
Brisbane, on the 30 day
of August, 1946.

A. J. Mansfield (signed)

JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF QUEENSLAND.

音頭 八二六六號

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一、一九四二年二月、「シンカボル」ニ於テ日本軍ニ依リ俘虜トセラレタ時、私ハ第八蒙洲師團、二ノ〇号戰聯隊、砲手テ、認識番號Q又第九二五二番「オリヴァ・エドウイン・ローバツ」テアリマシタ。

二、一九四三年五月、私ハ船テ日本ニ行ッタ。ソシテ神戸ニ上陸シ、「折尾」ノ音譯ノニ行軍シタ。此ノ一行、中ニ約三百名乃至四百名、英國八及五十名ノ蒙洲人カ居ツタ。彼等カ「折尾」ニ到着シタ時、其ノ人達ノ大部分ハ赤痢及脚氣ニ罹ツテ居ツタ。

三、其處テ私等ニ與ヘラレタ食物ハ主ニ米飯テアツテ、時折ハ大、肉、蛸、鯛ノ脂肪、及餃ノ數片ヲ附イタ。時折野菜ヲ與ヘラレタガ其ノ分量ハ停戻迄ニハ充分テハナク營養不良ニ基因スル病氣カ有加シタ。

四、折尾ノ音譯ノテ私等カ仕事ヲ開始スル前ニ、私等ハ一ツノ部落ニ連レ出サレ、日本人、面前テ廣場ノ廻リヲ駆足テ行進セラレタ。數人ノハ達ヲ倒シ、日本人、面前テ日本軍衛兵ニ依リ殴打サレタ。

五、私等ハ石炭ノ礦山テ効力サレタ方其處ノ状況ハ非常ニ惡カツタ。水刀參ク、左腰ハ危険テアツタ。

或ル時ニハ其レガ落丁シ來ツテ、トロツタ
ト云フ一名、歐洲人ヲ含ミニ、三名、死者ヲ記
シタ。

六、又或ル場合ニハ「ホント云フ英國兵士ガ貳
臺ノ石炭貨物自動車ノ因テ墜シ潰サレテ死ヌタ。
労働時間ハ一日十時間テアリ、其ル場合ニハ私等
ハ休日ナシニ二十一日間働カサレタ。

七、數多ノ場合ニ於テ、病氣中ノ人々が鎖山デ無理
ニ働カサレタ。

八、數多、殴打ノ日本軍衛兵ニ依リ俘虜ノ上ニ加ヘ
ラレタ。私セ亦、小銃ノ臺尻テ頭部ヲ殴打セラレ、
其ノ打痕ガ尙私ノ頭蓋ニ達ツテキル。

九、私等ハ虫ノ溜イタ汚イ小屋ニ入レラレタ。

十、冬期ニハ寒氣ガ激甚テアリ私等ハ非常ニ薄イ毛
布ヲ與ヘラレタカ其レハ我々ニ暖ラ臭ヘナカツタ、
其ノ結果若干ノ肺炎患者ヲ出シ、五名乃至六名ノ
歐洲人ガ肺炎、爲メ死亡シタ。

十一、米國亦十字ノ小包ガ收容所ニ送ラレタカ其ノ内
容物ノ大部分ハ日本軍衛兵ニ依ツテ盜取サレタ。

十二、私等方此ノ收容所ニ居タ全期間ヲ通シテ醫藥品
ハ非常ニ不足シテ居リ、此ノ爲メ若干ノ死亡ヲ惹
起サレタ。

十三、「テグス」ト云フヤウナ姓名テ此ノ收容所内、一名ノ日本人
ハ倍々人々ノ衣服カラ貳ラ取ツテ、其等ノ人々ニ喰ヘシタ。